Proposed Elements

Streetscape elements and design treatments along the P Street retail core create identifiable links and transitions to the following important streets and districts in downtown Lincoln:

- From P Street Primary Retail to P Street Secondary Retail.
- To the public square at 13th Street and from the square across P Street down 13th to O Street.
- To the Promenade at 11th Street and Centennial Mall.
- To the 12th Street Arts Corridor.

These links and transitions will be created by the design methods described below.

Special Promenade Intersection
At 14th and 11th Streets, provide treatments for recreation and multi-use path crossing including:
- Special bike traffic signals.
- Information and directory signs.
- Safety paving to mark pedestrian and bicycle off-street crossing.

Special Arts Intersection
At 12th Street, provide opportunities for public art display:
- Sculpture or other art pieces.
- Lighting – distinctive and appropriate to display art.
- Paving – medallions or other artistic treatment.

P Street Public Square Intersection
Provide a seamless flow of public square elements across P Street and continuing on 13th to O Street:
- Paving.
- Lighting.

Special Retail Gateway Treatment
On the blocks between 9th and 10th and between 14th and 15th streets, create a sense of passage into and out of the P Street primary retail district:
- Kiosks.
- Information and directory signs.

Festival/Event Spaces

Festival and event spaces are intended to provide permanent event staging sites and infrastructure for a variety of celebrations.

The two spaces, at Haymarket and at Centennial Mall, supplement Lincoln Square, and provide places for events that are too large for the square or inappropriate in that location. The event spaces would:

- Allow for closing of streets or limiting auto access.
- Be accessible for those with disabilities.
- Be securable to allow for the consumption of alcohol.

- Provide private hook-ups, locations for portable water and sanitary sewage.
- Be within walking distance of parking structures.
- Not conflict with adjacent uses in terms of hours of operation or type of activities allowed.

Festival Event Space

Centennial Festival Space
This space will be the forecourt for a possible relocated Bennett Martin Public Library. Its location on Centennial Mall between M and N Streets provides a desirable space for UpDowntowner sponsored events.

UpDowntowner Annually-Sponsored July Jamm Festival

Parks and Open Spaces

As Lincoln grows in size and density, planning for future parks and open spaces becomes increasingly more important. Designed correctly, open spaces can create a setting that encourages further reinvestment while improving the appeal of the community not only for those living or working downtown, but also for visitors.

Lincoln has already invested in a number of existing and planned parks and open spaces and supplemented with the quadrangles, paths, and open spaces on the UNL campus comprises an extensive system contributing to the overall character of the City. Integrating these spaces into one cohesive plan will provide Lincoln with a complete "green network." This network will not only ensure the addition of new open spaces, but will help to preserve and maintain what exists today.

The parks and open spaces framework describes a collection of new outdoor areas that:

- Are for public use.
- Are sited as a focus of activity and development, not leftover space.
- Are adaptable for a variety of activities, both active and passive.
- Can incorporate sustainable practices where appropriate.
- Are safe both day and night.
- When coupled with the off-street pedestrian/bicycle system, provide green off-street access to downtown attractors.
- Provide a green linkage to adjacent neighborhoods, including the Antelope Valley, the University of Nebraska campus and Haymarket Park.

Improvements and additions to Lincoln's parks and open spaces network include M Street Park Blocks – M Street between 7th and 11th streets and between Centennial Mall and 21st streets.

- East and West Park Blocks – M Street between 7th and 11th streets and between 16th and 21st streets.
- Urban Park Blocks – M Street between 11th and 16th streets.
- Centennial Mall – between R and K streets.
- Railroad Park – on the west end of town running north-south from H to O Street, and east-west from 4th to 6th Street.

Existing/Planned Parks & Open Space

New Parks/Open Space

North

Park & Open Space

M Street Park Blocks - East

M Street Park Blocks - West

Site of Planned Railyard Park

Railyard Park Proposed Concept Plan

Connect to Park Blocks

Pond: Water Quality and Stormwater Retention Facility

Active Sport Playfields

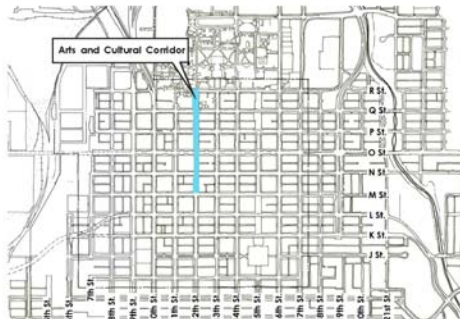# Railyard Park

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Arts and Cultural Corridor

Beginning in 1996, the Downtown Lincoln Association, Lincoln Arts Council and the Mayor's office began developing ideas for a 12th Street arts corridor. The 12th Street Corridor Plan was created in conjunction with the "Imagine Art Here" workshop held on December 11, 2002. The corridor is intended to provide a signature street that promotes a public art, cinema and performance arts identity in downtown. The design should seamlessly knit together existing cultural, education, and non-profit institutions such as the Lied Performing Arts Center, the Sheldon Art Gallery, Southeast Community Center, Douglas Grand Cinema and the Arbor Day Foundation. It encompasses five blocks of 12th Street, from the Sheldon Memorial Art Gallery on the University of Nebraska campus to the Tier One Bank on M
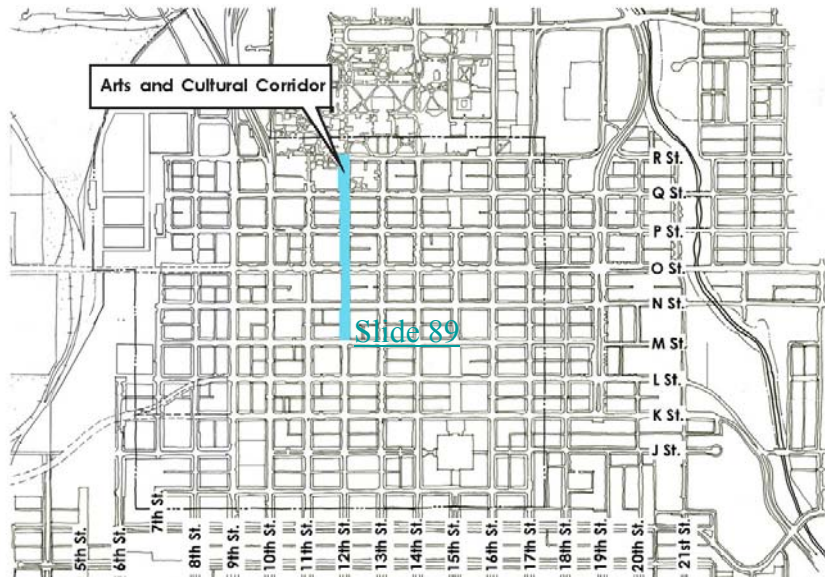
Street. The street would:

- Consider recommendations developed in the 12th St. Public Art Plan. (Not part of Downtown Master Plan process.)
- Include development of murals or other facade enhancements on blank walls of buildings - most notably the western side of the Tier One Bank.
- Create an exuberant, memorable, and all-seasons landscape theme.
- Include sculpture, medallions or other art pieces.
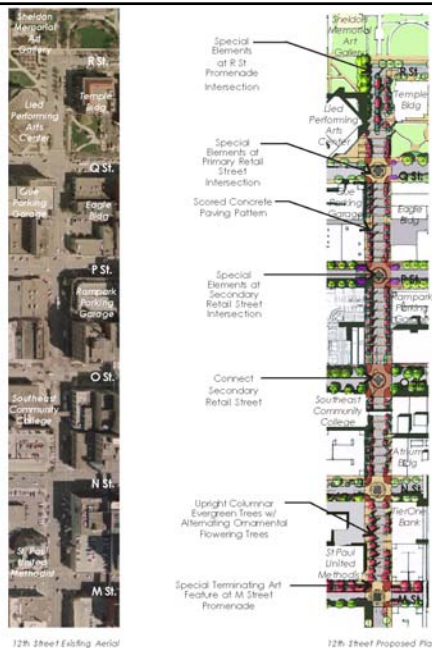- Minimize the visual effect of existing skywalks.

Arts Corridor in Portland, OR

Arts and Cultural Corridor

Arts & Cultural Corridor

Arts & Cultural Corridor

Promenade

The promenade is intended to provide a highly-identifiable pedestrian loop around the downtown core. It should serve as an amenity for development and provide safe and convenient access to downtown districts and attractions.
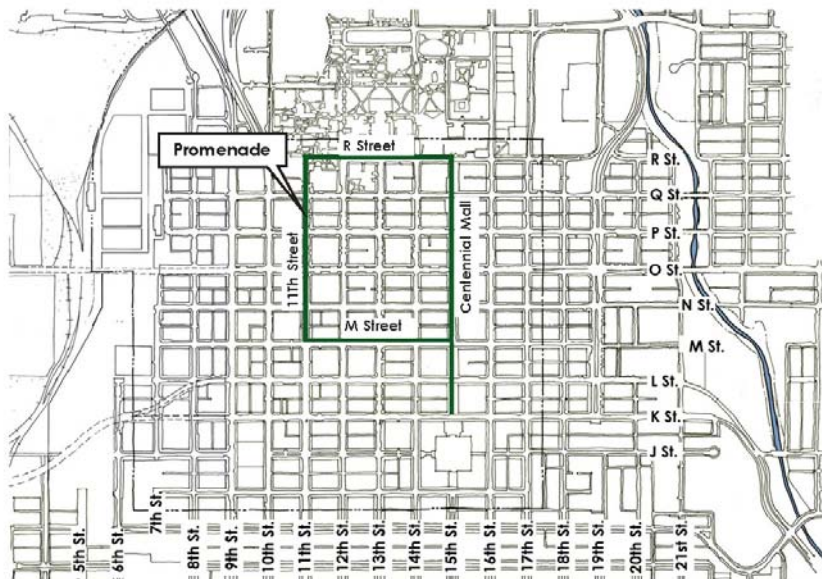
A New Recreation Loop

The promenade would be wide enough to provide for a variety of different users. The users of the promenade would include:

- Pedestrians.
- Strollers.
- Low-speed bicyclists – especially children and families.
- Rollerbladers or rollerskaters.
- Joggers.

The new pedestrian loop would:

- *Be constructed within existing public rights-of-way* – except a short segment along R Street between 11th and 12th where it crosses the UNL campus.
- *Comprise four segments* – north-south on 11th Street from the UNL campus to M Street, east-west on M Street from 11th to Centennial Mall; north-south the length of Centennial Mall (from M to R streets as well as south to K Street); and east-west from Centennial Mall on R Street to 11th.

The following pages describe in detail each of the four segments.

Promenade

Centennial Mall Promenade

Centennial Mall was designed to highlight Lincoln's historic capitol building, giving visitors a perfectly framed view of this architectural wonder.

Over the years the formal arrangement of paved and grassy areas has offered both gathering space and relief from the grid of wide downtown streets. Today, however, the mall has become fragmented, is in poor physical condition, and requires considerable maintenance. Furthermore, it holds barriers for those with physical disabilities.

The new promenade loop proposed in the public realm framework addresses these present-day needs and recommends changes described below and on the following pages.

New Primary Uses

The Centennial Mall would be programmed to support new primary uses to support:

- Limited auto movement
- An recreational amenity for strolling, passive sitting and viewing.
- The location for occasional festival or events staged by the Updowntowners and other organizations.

New Design

Certain aspects of the mall design, including some materials and arrangement of spaces, would be adjusted:

- Additional green space on the three blocks between P and N streets, where currently there is none.
- Simplification of the 32'-0" wide promenade by removing fountains.
- Incorporation of universal design features to provide access for all.
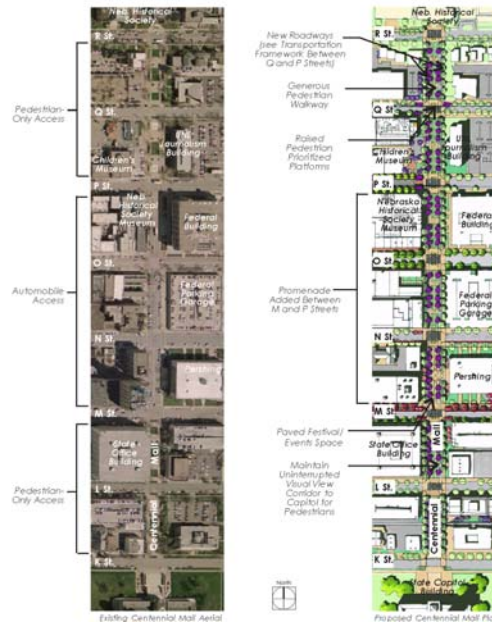
View from the Capitol

View from the Nebraska Historical Society

Promenade – Centennial Mall

Existing Centennial Mall Aerial

Proposed Centennial Mall Plan

Promenade – Centennial Mall

Promenade – M Street

Promenade – 11th Street

Promenade – R Street

Downtown Master Plan
Lincoln, Nebraska

June 8, 2005

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www.lincoln.ne.gov
www.downtownlincoln.org

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or
City of Lincoln Planning Department